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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TU X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2682

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/461,353

Applicant(s)

RISSANEN, JUSSI

Examiner

Tu X Nguyen

Art Unit

2682

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: Miss word "claim".
Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-5,9,11,14,20,22-23,27,29,32,38,40,41-42,43-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Sizer, II et al. (US Patent 6,036,086).

As to claims 1, Sizer, II et al. Disclose an electronic couponing method comprising the steps of:

Transferring coupon (col.4 lines 63-64) information to a first portable (110) terminal and storing (see col.2 lines 58-60) same therein;

Displaying (see col.2 lines 60-62) a representation of the transferred (col.5 lines 38-41) coupon information on the first portable terminal; and

Transferring at least part of the stored coupon information from the first portable terminal to another terminal (120) for redemption (col.4 lines 42-44).

As to claim 2, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claim 1 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose transferring at least part of the stored coupon information from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal (see col.5 lines 47-48).

As to claim 3, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claim 1 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose an electronic couponing system comprising:

a first portable terminal having a memory (see col.3 lines 64-67).

A first transfer unit for transferring coupon information to said first portable terminal, said first portable terminal storing same in said memory thereof (see col.2 lines 58-60);

A display disposed within said first portable terminal for displaying a representation of said transferred coupon information from said first portable terminal (see col.2 lines 60-62); and

A second transfer unit (see col.3 lines 4-8) for transferring at least part of said stored coupon information to another terminal for redemption.

As to claim 4, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claim 1 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose a second transfer unit (120) for transferring at least part of said stored coupon information to said second portable terminal.

A scanner unit corresponding to a second portable terminal (120) having a scanner unit to receive data transfer from first portable terminal's scanner unit (see col.3 lines 4-8).

As to claim 41, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claim 1 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose an electronic couponing method comprising the steps of:

transferring at least part of the stored coupon information from the first portable terminal to another terminal (120) for redemption (col.4 lines 42-44) and

transferring at least part of the stored coupon information to a second portable terminal (see col.5 lines 47-48).

As to claim 42, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claim 1 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose an electronic couponing method comprising

A second portable terminal (see col.3 lines 4-8); and

A third transfer unit (see col.3 lines 4-8) for transferring at least part said stored coupon information from said first portable terminal (110) to said second portable terminal (see col.5 line 45-48).

As to claims 5,9,14, 22, 23,27,32 and 40, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claims 1,2,3,4,41 and 42 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose wherein

at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal by optically scanning information with an optical scanner (see col.11 line 62 through col.12 line 4).

At least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to a second portable terminal via optically scanning the displayed representation of the transferred coupon information on the first portable terminal (see col.6 lines 38-47).

As to claims 11, 20, 29 and 38 Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claims 1-4 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose wherein at least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the portable terminal to another terminal via an infrared link (see col.4 lines 45-46).

As to claims 43-48 Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claims 1,2,3,4,41 and 42 above, Sizer, II et al. further disclose wherein said coupon information comprises a coupon ID (see col.9 lines 65-67).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6,10,15,21,24,28,33 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sizer, II et al. in view of Souissi et al. (US Patent 6,327,300).

Sizer, II et al. discloses everything as claims 1,2,3,4,41 and 42 above, however fails to explicitly disclose wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal with a bluetooth radio link.

In an analogous art, Souissi et al. disclose wherein it is advantageous to include a bluetooth radio link (see col.1 lines 11-21). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Sizer, II et al. such that at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal with a bluetooth radio link for the purpose of universal short-range radio link peripheral interface.

Claims 7-8,12-13,16-19,25-26,30-31,34-37 and 49-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sizer, II et al. in view of Wiedeman (US Patent 6,160,994).

As to Claims 7,12,16-18,25,30,34,36-37 and 49-56 Sizer, II et al. discloses everything as claim 1-4 above, however fails to explicitly disclose wherein

at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal via the internet.

At least part of the stored coupon information is transferred from the first portable terminal to another terminal via the internet.

In an analogous art, Wiedeman discloses wherein it is advantageous to include portable terminal (84) transmits via the Internet (see col.7 lines 61-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Sizer, II et al. such that at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the first portable terminal via internet for the purpose of having capable of receiving and transmitting data via internet.

As to claims 8,26,31,35 and 37 Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claims 7,25,30,33 and 36 above, the modified Sizer, II et al. would show wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred from the internet to the first portable terminal via a wireless link (see col.5 lines 49-53).

As to Claims 13 and 19, Sizer, II et al. discloses everything as claim 7 and 8 above, however fails to explicitly disclose wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred from the internet to the first portable terminal via a wireless link.

In an analogous art, Wiedeman discloses wherein it is advantageous to include portable terminal (84) transmits via the Internet (see col.7 lines 61-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Sizer, II et al. such that at least part of the coupon information is

transferred to the first portable terminal via internet for the purpose of having capable of receiving and transmitting data via internet.

As to claims 49-56, Sizer, II et al. disclose everything as claims 1-4, 41-42 above, however Sizer, II et al. fail to explicitly disclose wherein at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the portable terminal via a wireless LAN.

In an analogous art, Wiedeman discloses wherein it is advantageous to include the portable terminal (84) via the Internet (see col.7 lines 61-62). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Sizer, II et al. such that at least part of the coupon information is transferred to the portable terminal via wireless LAN for the purpose the coupon information is transferred via a wireless LAN.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tu Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3427. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivian Chin, can be reached at (703) 308-6739.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office at (703) 306-0377.

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
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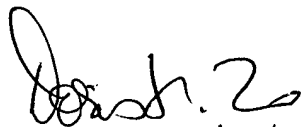
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

TN

February 21, 2002


DORIS H. TO 2/21/02
PRIMARY EXAMINER